

## BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### Minnesota Job Skills Partnership Automation Training Incentive Program

<b>Program Purpose:</b>	Provide grants to help small businesses train existing workers as quickly and efficiently as possible on new automation equipment and technology.
<b>How it Works:</b>	Grants are awarded directly to businesses.
<b>Eligible applicants:</b>	Grants are available to Minnesota businesses located in Greater Minnesota that have 150 or fewer full-time employees, are in the manufacturing or skilled assembly production industry, and that have recently invested in new automation technology or plans to invest in new automation technology within the project timeframe.
<b>Minimum Requirements:</b>	Training is for existing jobs that provide at least 32 hours of work per week for a minimum of nine months a year and pay wages of at least equal 120% of the federal poverty guidelines for a family of four. The automation must not result in the dislocation of workers. Eligible projects must receive a minimum of 30 points on the review criteria outlined in the program guide.
<b>Eligible Activities:</b>	Training for workers on new automation technology. Funds may be used for direct training costs including assessment, testing and certification costs, curriculum development, training delivery, trainee wages, training materials and supplies, training equipment and facilities (pro-rated), trainer travel and lodging costs. Training may be provided by an accredited MN educational institution; in-house; by federal, state, or local agencies; by consultants; and/or by equipment vendors.
<b>Ineligible Activities:</b>	Company orientation type training, pre-employment training, and training not directly related to the new automation technology/equipment.
<b>Maximum Available:</b>	Grants of up to \$35,000 are available. Minimum award of \$10,000. Award amount is limited to \$5,000 per employee trained.
<b>Application Timelines:</b>	Eligible applications will be awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis contingent on the availability of funds.
<b>Terms:</b>	Training must begin within six months of award and must be completed within 1-2 years based on timing of the award.
<b>Approving Authority:</b>	Commissioner of the Department of Employment and Economic Development
<b>Disbursement of Funds:</b>	Costs are paid on a reimbursement basis.
<b>Contact:</b>	For additional information or a grant application, contact the Minnesota Job Skills Partnership at 651-259-7514 or visit our website at <a href="http://mn.gov/deed/mjsp/">http://mn.gov/deed/mjsp/</a> .